# Is This The Last Issue of O YOUR Oric ?

That far and distant year of '82', and what a year. When an Oric-1 micro-computer cost £169.95 and the only game that ever got used more than three times was an over priced Flight Simulator called 'Oric Flight'. But of course, who remembers walking into a Computer Shop and saying, "Hi, I own an Oric. Where's the Oric section?". And the only response you ever got was, "A what, mate?", and being told that there wasn't any software for it came as complete horror. So it was back to the impossible, trying to land the plane in 'Oric Flight' !

Then there was hope, the computer press spreading pictures of the Oric-1 all over the front cover. Only to find out that they were hammering the old Oric something wrotten and for ever comparing it with

a Spectrum, there's no comparison. As one doctor of Science said, "The Spectrum looks more like an Italian Salad than like a computer"! And then the Oric Manual, but not forgetting the famous BUGs only available in an Oric!

From then on, things got better with a new software company called Tansoft. And not forgetting the market leaders in Oric software, I.J.K. with their famous series, the Xenon Saga.... But that was then and this is now. Oric after about four years, has a well built software range with many more from France, more add-ons and a company that seems to know what they are doing, Eureka. Three cheers..

There's not many newsletters around for the Oric, in fact there's none. But there is one, and it's

British, in fact your reading it now. Your Oric has a readership of over 250 and is read in over 15 countries.

Your Oric has produced six newsletters up to date and has provided the owner the best rag that they can read for their micro. But is this all coming to a sudden end, just like Oric (old Oric.), in the last three issues response and letters arriving have gone down dramatically. No one is sending in anything no more.

Continued Inside.

# INSIDE

4 page Adventure Spot

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'Your Oric' Software.

# ORIC NEWS

What we need is people sending tips,comments,problems,letters etc.This will be the last issue if no one sends anything in!

Don't let a great newsletter for a great computer vanish,it's up to you - the Your Oric reader to keep Your Oric number 1.We have many articles still to print and will be releasing software under our own label (see below).So remember,send those contributions.

# QUESTIONAIRE RESULTS

Dear "Your Oric" Subscriber,

You may remember that two issues ago "Your Oric" ran a survey,which was distributed with the newsletter,request the forms be completed and returned to W.E.Software,using our FREEPOST address.We have received some nintyfive replies and Your Oric have asked that W.E. collate the findings;so here they are!

| | |
|---|---|
| Question 1: | The vast majority of those prefered the newsletter in its new folded, non staple form,the new layout improved the presentation of the newsletter immensly,well done! |
| Question 2: | The ATMOS definately won the day here with some eighty people, out of those who replied,owning and Atmos;and in some cases two atmos micros as well as an Oric-1.There was also a splattering of Telestrat owners. |
| Question 3: | Many of the answers indicated that Your Oric subscribers are hardened Oric users,most have owned an Oric for two years plus. |
| Question 4: | The majority of those who replied were in the 16/40 age group,and one person admitted to being over 05! |
| Question 5: | Most people seem to own a peripheral or add-on of some sort,however the most popular are joysticks,modems,disc drives (both the Eureka Microdisc which we are pleased to say is still the most popular drive - and the OPELCO machine) and printers. |
| Question 6: | Most users seem to spend between five and twenty hours a month tapping into their Oric micro. |
| Question 7: | This question ("From where do you purchase software and hardware") gave the following results:- |

| Company: | Market Percentage: |
|---|---|
| W.E.Software | 49% |
| FGC | 24% |
| OPELCO | 23% |
| O.J.Software | 17% |
| Phildata | 2% |
| Arcadia/A & P Software/Peach | 1% each. |

If you total the above figures you will notice that they add up to more than 100%,this is because several people purchase from two or three companies.

| | |
|---|---|
| Question 8: | The most favourite item in the Newsletter,according to the replies recieved is the News section. |

Your Oric would like to thank W.E.Software for their help in this Questionaire.

# TYRANT

*A Your Oric Program*
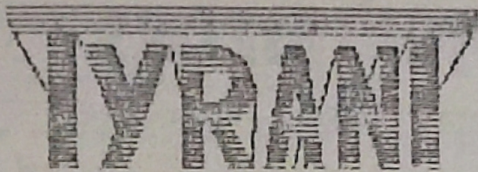
*Quality Software you'll want to keep*

**YOUR Oric**

AN ARCADE ACTION GAME
£7.50

ORIC/ATMOS

# NEW YOUR ORIC SOFTWARE

Your Oric is proud to announce the first software title under the Your Oric label. The first title is an arcade game called 'Tyrant' and is priced at £7.50. The aim of Tyrant is to defeat the Mighty Sadusen, an evil tyrant who has stolen your land. To defeat the Mighty Sadusen and the robots that serve him, you must enter the land with your NM 156 Attack Robot.

The game features an excellent hi-res screen with sound track while loading, good graphics and music/sound effects, instructions, adjust music/sound effects volume, hi scores chart and good game play.

## 'THE NINTENDO ENTERTAINMENT SYSTEM'

I would like to take the chance to report on a new entertainment system that's currently took Japan by storm. It's called the 'Nintendo'. With more than 90,000 units sold in New York (in one test market!), and over 9 million satisfied Japanese owners I had to share this new craze with you.

This Nintendo system is a superior machine, the graphics on a Nintendo games pak are totally stunning! A games pak is made up of 52 colours, with this many it gives excellent tone refinements, realistic 3D graphic images with shadows and has a convincing depth of field. But that's not all, a Zapper Gun is also available. This astonishing video gun can pin point moving targets with outstanding accuracy up to 16 feet. And with the Deluxe system - the amazing R.O.B. is thrown in (A Robotic Operating Buddy). You and your R.O.B. can make those enemies days!

It doesn't stop there! The craze is about to sweep Great Britain..... Be in at the start before anyone else. This system is now available from W.E. Software. Contact can be made by writing to this address: Foley Bank, Worcester Road, Great Malvern, Worcestershire, WR14 4QW.

Deluxe Set - includes -                                          £159.99

Deck, Zapper (pistol), Robot, two hand contfols and two free games -
GIROMITE and DUCK HUNT.

Deck includes - two hand held controls and SUPER MARIO BROS game    £ 99.99
R.O.B. (Robotic Operating Buddy)                                   £ 42.50
Zapper (pistol - accurate to 16 feet)                              £ 22.50

Remember where you read this first!

NEWS JUST IN..........

It is likely that W.E. Software will be holding a demonstration of 'Nintendo' in Malvern on the 4th September 1987. And they will be inviting all their customers in Worcestershire, Herefordshire and Gloucestershire - anyone not in these areas, but wishing to come along, should get in touch as soon as possible.



Dick 'Kay' Thompson          No 2 ©'87 BY AVEY

'..BUT ARCHIMEDES, WHAT ABOUT MY DEADLINES!?'
TO CALAIS
TO DOVER
FRENCH LEAVE
..THE THINGS I HAVE TO DO TO GET THIS NEWSLETTER OUT ON TIME!

# FRENCH LEAVE          BY ARCHIMEDES

As promised there's lots of good news from France this issue,with Oric International taking the lead.So much,in fact,that we'd better dive straight in.....

ORIC International:
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Oric have opened a new shop in Paris at 39, rue Victor Masse.Opening hours are Mon-Thurs 9-1 and 2-6 and Friday 9-1 and 2-5.The shop is closed on Saturday.It has full stocks of the Atmos,Telestrat,peripherals and software.

As they say,"rumours of our death are greatly exaggerated".After a slack start to the year,Oric are now seeking authors for software for the Telestrat and Atmos,looking for people capable of converting software to Telestrat,and from Oric-1 to Atmos and vice-versa Since most of our readers have an Atmos,their news first....

The Atmos is on sale now with two free games cassettes at the Paris Shop for 990F (£103)...

NEW!!!! The Microdisc is now supplied with double heads,doubling the capacity of each disk to 400K - for only £20 extra! New Price is 2690F (£279) INCLUDING SEDORIC (See Your Oric No.2)

Software - Oric have purchased the French rights to the Tansoft,Durell and Softek catalogues,and as well as selling them on cassette producing them for the Atmos+Microdisc, and for the Telestrat.....A contract was recently signed with Loriciels,one of the leading French Software houses,to produce their catalogue for the Atmos and Telestrat - such great titles as Le Diamant de l'Ile Maudite,L'Aigle d'Or,Super Jeep,3D Fongus, Flipper,Star,Secret du Tombeau,Vortex (the best word processor ever for the Atmos),etc... Negotiations are in progress with most other software publishers....

New Interface Kits and supporting software for the Atmos are in preparation...

AND now for the big news - as Oric themselves put it in April (in French!),"1987 will be the year of the true unveiling of the Telestrat".

TELESTRAT NEWS:
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Firstly,from March 1987 all Telestrats have the ROM Version 2.0b,correcting errors in the original 2,0 ROM (a familiar sound to this story?!).There are rumours of a version 2.0c but no confirmation.....

Biggest news is a vast releases of Telestrat software,at last making it a machine well worth considering even though the "Minitel" functions are incompatible with Prestel... how's this for a list?....

Stratmon - disc - 200F
M/C monitor on disc,with manual,Oric-Mon inspired

Tele-Ass - cartridge - 490F
Editor/symbolic assembler/monitor

64K Ram Extension - cartridge - 690F

Real-time Clock - 590F
Fits the extension bus on the Telestrat,battery supported.Includes full calendar and alarm Features,accurate to one second per annum - has obvious uses with telecommunications.

80 Column Extension
A black-box to fit the extension bus,giving a fully intergrated 80 column screen.

Developer's manual - 190F
All the tricks of the trade for software writers.

Lisbal - disc - 1000F
A complete letter-box utility,giving full facilities for sending,receiving and storing electronic mail.

Telekube - disc - 200F
Rubik's cube on the screen!

Nibbler - disc - 190F
An arcade game.

But above all:

Stratoric - cartridge - 490F

This solves all compatibility problems between the Telestrat and Atmos/Oric-1/Sedoric....
For the very low price of £50,you get a cartridge containing the Atmos and Oric-1 ROMs,the
Sedoric disc (definitive version 1.06),plus Atmos manual and Sedoric manual - all for the
old price of Sedoric alone!

   With this the Telestrat functions exactly as an Atmos or Oric-1 with Microdisc,including
the CONVERT utility to copy cassette to disc and Oric V1.1 disc to Sedoric.ALL your
exisiting software will run on the telestrat as on your exisisting Atmos/Oric-1.

AND the latest offer!....Yes,you've guessed it,with every Telestrat comes a free Stratoric
pack!

   At last,it seems,Oric have realised that despite the success of the Telestrat in the
communications field,it has equally strong prospects in the original home computer field -
and now you can buy one which will immediately run all your existing Oric software....i.e.
Telestrat,double-headed disc drive,Stratoric,Hyperbasic v2.0b,and all the bits for around
£400, or £340 if you trade in your old Atmos at the Paris shop.

Could it be that W.E. will be able to offer a similar package?

A NEW ORIC COMPUTER

Finally,Oric have announced the 'Addrestel',a dedicated mailing list package of keyboard,
2 disc drives and software,with full editing and geographic sorting facilities.A bit
specialised for our readers,no doubt,but it's  good to see Oric actively expanding their
range.

Now,after all that excitement,it's back to the regular features....

NEW SOFTWARE

Bleu Ciel Informatique continue to produce new programs for the Atmos......

Ludico
A kind of "Mastermind" with words.The programe holds 3500 words;you see six at a time,and
try and guess the letters common with the mystery word.You start with 100 points,which
decrease with each incorrect guess.A simple,relaxing game,well-produced and with three
levels - Competition,Beat the Record,and Marathon (!).However it is all in French...

Incidentally,most 'Bleu Ciel' software is now available on disc for both Atmos and
Telestrat.

And that's all there's room for....an optimistic report from across the Channel,with at
long last the real possibility of the Telestrat being worth buying for the Atmos owner...
now, W.E., how about that Prestel cartridge,and we're well away!

                                                        Au revoir,
                                                           Archimedes.

# Ed's comment...

   I would first like to say that to all of our readers old and new to please write in to us,
you only have to look at the front page to see the situation the Newsletter is in.Just look
at the superb Issue that has been sent out (No.7),we can keep on making "Your Oric" for years
we have enough material for a few more Issues,but we do need your contributions how ever big
or small they are,so readers please write in and I will tell you what responce I get from this
plea,I know it's the summer months but as thay say the Newsletter must go on!

   Now on to nicer things "Your Oric" will soon be releasing it's very first Software title
under the 'Your Oric Software' label,it is a splended Arcade game called "TYRANT" turn to the
news pages for further details and price.

   The results to the Questionaire are on page 1 which was held in No.4.Adventure fans are in
for a real treat this Issue as we have a full review of the French Classic No.1 adventure
called Le Diamant De L'ile Maudite with screen dumps,fully translated vocabulary list plus
a map of the adventure.

   Readers may like to know that back Issues of "Your Oric" are available No.2,3,4,5,6 at £1.20
each.Please make cheques payable to "Your Oric" thankyou.Now on with the Newsletter there are
reviews of Maze Rally and Snake Venom by F.G.C and Spread package by Peach has been reviewed.

# HINTS & TIPS

HOW TO SUBMIT PROGRAMS TO 'YOUR ORIC'
All program listings should be sent in by tape with full details,
we have our own printers to give a printout suitable for use in the
Newsletter.It is therefore not essential that you send listings for
BASIC programs.We must have listings for Machine Code though.If you
wish for your programs to be returned please include a stamped self
addressed envelope.The address to write to is :-
Hints & Tips, Your Oric, 41 Morden Gardens, Mitcham, Surrey CR4 4DH.


AUTO LINE NUMBER BY G.P.MILLS
The following program was sent in by Mr G.P.Mills,the program was
written for the Atmos V1.1.It is a machine code utility to assist
with line numbering when entering Basic Programs.The Basic loader
contains an error check indicating which data line is wrong if an
error is found.When the code is called a message appears on the
status line giving details on how to set the line incriment (DOKE
#0) and how to switch off auto line (CALL #A0E2).The line increment
all you have to do is press the Function Key and the next line
number is printed on screen with the cursor in the edit position
on the end of the line ready to copy.


```
0 REM *** AUTO LINE NUMBER ***
1 REM *** BY G.P.MILLS ***
5 DIM B(13):CLS:PRINT
6 FOR X=1 TO 13:READ B(X):NEXT X
10 FOR X=#A000 TO #A0F6
15 READ A$
20 A=VAL("0"+A$):B=B+A:I=I+1
25 IF I=20 THEN I=0:N=N+1:IF B<>B(N) THEN 60 ELSE B=0:GOSUB 500
30 POKE X,A
40 NEXT:N=N+1:IF B<>B(N) THEN 60 ELSE 70
60 PRINT"CHECKSUM ERROR IN LINE";N*10+100
65 END
70 PRINT"CHECKSUM OK SAVE CODE A#000 TO A#A06F"
80 PRINT:PRINT"CALL#A000 TO START NUMBERING":PRINT
90 PRINT"PRESS FUNCT TO GET NEXT LINE NUMBER":END
100 DATA1557,1361,2262,1950,2251,1404,2068,2730,2526,2241,2424,2150,61,7
110 DATA4C,2B,A0,20,20,44,4F,4B,45,23,30,20,77,69,74,68,20,73,74,65
120 DATA70,20,43,41,4C,4C,23,41,30,45,32,20,74,6F,20,65,6E,64,20,20
130 DATA20,20,20,A0,27,B9,03,A0,99,80,BB,88,D0,F7,A9,40,8D,0E,03,A9
140 DATA4B,8D,45,02,A9,A0,8D,46,02,A9,C0,8D,0E,03,60,48,8A,48,98,48
150 DATAA9,0E,A2,EF,20,90,F5,A9,BD,8D,00,03,AD,00,03,29,08,F0,77,A0
160 DATA01,A5,02,85,06,A5,04,85,02,A5,03,85,07,A5,05,85,03,AD,01,05
170 DATA85,04,B9,01,05,85,05,A5,04,8D,76,A0,8D,7B,A0,A5,05,AD,77,A0
180 DATA8D,7C,A0,A5,04,C9,00,D0,D0,A5,05,C9,00,D0,CA,A5,9A,8D,76,A0
190 DATAAD,7B,A0,A5,9B,8D,77,A0,8D,7C,A0,A9,02,18,65,06,8D,C1,A0,8D
200 DATAC9,A0,A9,00,65,07,8D,C2,A0,8D,CA,A0,8D,01,05,18,65,00,85,88
210 DATAB9,01,05,65,01,85,A9,20,C1,E0,A9,0B,20,D9,CC,20,F0,CB,68,A8
220 DATA68,AA,68,4C,22,EE,A9,40,8D,0E,03,A9,22,8D,45,02,A9,EE,8D,46
230 DATA02,A9,C0,8D,0E,03,60
```


THE XENON SAGA BY S.G.DUTTON
XER - This screen is a bit like centipede with a boomerang.With
this one use the joystick and it couldn't be easier.
RUNDUS - This screen is much like TERRA without the tanks.Use a
joystick or keyboard and zap everything insight until the score
reaches about 4 or 5.

Next issue the final screen RADON............

'CAN ANYONE HELP?'
Can anyone help Mr Paul Hill who writes 'I have acquired a second
hand Atmos (which has been upgraded from an Oric-1).And I have
bought a Single Sided 3' Disc Drive,Type Hitachi HFD 305S (from
Computer Appreciation priced at _29.95+VAT).The edge connector is of
Shuggart Standard.I now require an interface to the computer and DOS
So if any readers have any information or circuits or current
suppliers I would be very happy to hear from you.I have tried Cumana
with no luck.Please write to me at the following address :-
Mr P.Hill, 38 Balmoral Close, Stevenage, Herts SG2 8UA.

Mr L.Sullivan from Lancs writes,'While playing 'Xenon 1' I have
noticed an infuriating bug.The normal sound has been wiped out and
just the 'key click' from the Oric bleeps out.As this kept annoying
me I typed in the following 'PRINT CHR$(6)' this stops the key
click as well as 'CTRL F'.Then when loaded the refueling ship is
shown with the words 'Xenon 1' scrolling up the screen.The keyclick
sounds and interrupts the whole thing by jerking the graphics and
slowing it down.Does any reader know of any POKES or have had the
same problem as I have if so please contact me at this address :-
Mr L.Sullivan, 60 Old Brow, Mossley, A-U-L, Lancs OL5 0DY.

WORDSQUARE BY ANDREW FORD FOR THE 16/48K ORIC-1/ATMOS
Andrew Ford from Birmingham has sent in another great puzzle game
called 'Word Square' and is Issues 7 Pull-Out Program.Andrew says
'Word Square' was written recently.It is a shorter program with no
music (apart from sound effects) and is fast enough in BASIC to be
enjoyable.Below are the program details and a few tips on play.

Main Variables :-      N$ - Hold micro name ie (Oric-1 or Atmos).
                    S,SK - Skill level (determines square style).
                 A$(Y,X) - Check string to see if puzzle done.
                 B$(Y,X) - Puzzle string.
      AD,CH and B(Y,X) - Used to set up puzzle.
                   SX,SY - Position of vacant squares in puzzle.
                   LM(SK) - Least moves to complete so far.
                      MV - Number of moves.
                      CK - Check to see if B$(,) = A$(,)
                   QU,SL - Disenables keyboard.

Other details :- a) Program checks if Oric-1 or Atmos and modifies
title.B) QU and SH disenable/enable keyboard to speed up program.
C) follow on screen Instructions - 150 moves on level 1 is not bad!

THE 'C.H.E.A.T.S. FILE' : Chuckford
Mr John Giddens from W.Sussex has found a way of cheating at F.G.Cs
Chuckford.John says'It will get the game to start at a higher
screen than usual and allow access to one variation of a screen
that can't normally be reached.Here's how to do it.
1) Move the tape past the title screen section.
2) Type POKE#B4,X where X is found according to the table below.

| Screen | X |
|---|---|
| 1 to 9 | 1 to 9 |
| 0: | 10 (Not normally in the game). |
| 10 to 19 | 16 to 25 |
| 1: | 26 |
| 20 to 29 | 32 to 41 |
| 2: | 42 |

after this the cycle repeats.E.G for screen 11 you must use POKE
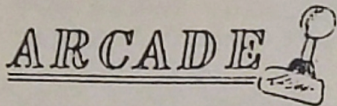#B4,17.
CLOAD   and play the rest of the tape in.

# Software Reviews

## Maze Rally ★ ★ ★ ★

Maze Rally is a new release by F.G.C. and is priced at £6.95. It loads in five minutes and while loading a screen is presented which shows a map of the maze, which you are advised to study.

Once loaded a menu appears allowing you to the    instructions, start the game, skill level and the high-score chart. The menu screen is attractively layed out with pictures for each option. A Danish flag is also displayed at the bottom. The character set is defined. What is it, about the Rat Splat character set?

If you leave the keyboard for a while another screen will appear showing the author's names. Maze Rally was made by two Danish programmers who live in Copenhagen. On the same screen is three graphic globes where the words MAZERALLY rotate around them. A stunning effect. After this screen comes the high-scores chart which has entries from Granny GO GO, The Show Off Guy, Eric The Red and Randy Ronald!!!

The aim of Maze Rally is to drive your car around the maze and collect the twelve flags that are randomly positioned. But the enemy in this game are the cars that inspect the maze for the safe keeping of the flags. Flags are worth 200 pts, double score flags are worth 400 pts and fuel flags which gives your car a full tank of fuel is worth 1100 pts. Controls are easy to use with A (up), Z (down), ⟨ (left), ⟩ (right) and space-bar for smoke. The smoke is used to slow down the cars that are chasing you. Sometimes the cars have set routes that they follow and some have random routes, so look out!

You start of with three lives and a bonus life is awarded each time your score exceeds a multiple of 15000. The main playing area fills up $\frac{3}{4}$ of the screen. On the right hand side is your Radar which will display your position on the maze as well as the other cars. Above the Radar is a collection of twelve flags that will change colour every time a flag is collected. Along the top is your fuel line. Down the bottom is your score with the highest score.

What can I say about Maze Rally? It's a great game to play, it's graphics are attractive and the music used is the 'Entertainer'. Some may grumble but why not have a classic piece of music with a classic game? Maze Rally is worth a space in your collection and lets hope we see more work in the future from these Danish programmers. Well done F.G.C.
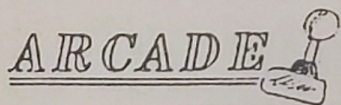
## Snake Venom ★ ★ ★ ★

Here's another great game from F.G.C. The aim of Snake Venom is to seek out and destroy your venomous friend. The main playing area on the screen is drawn in grid like form with an arrow at the top indicating where the enemy is. Snake Venom is a bit like P.S.S.'s Light Cycle, but this version from F.G.C. stands out from any other. It has improved graphics and sound and is more exciting to play. A special feature to look out for is the High Score screen with its moving grid pattern in the background, an excellent touch to this great game.

This, another great game, what can I say but well done to the author and of course F.G.C.

# By C.Thompson.

# The Spread Package reviewed by Archimedes...

There's not much point in me buying a spreadsheet programme,is there?After all that's
for businessmen,isn't it?No doubt that's what was passing through your mind when you saw the
the subject of this review.And of course,that,primarily,is the aim of this programme
from Peach Software.But as you will see,it can also be a very useful utility for the
home enthusiast.

A spreadsheet,for the uninitiated,is simply a tabulated sheet of information,with each
item having against it a number of headed columns.It is therefore very useful for
recording stock in a retail shop,or the financial details for items produced by a manu-
facturer,showing prices,sizes and suchlike.So,for example,an ironmonger could list all the
sizes of screws he stocks,and then enter after each size the retail price,cost price,stock
level and invoice details.He can then at a glance see the amount of stock he has,its value,
and if he has date headed columns even the rate of sales for a given period.

'Spread' sets out to provide a computerised version of this table.To achieve a
reasonable size of sheet it adopts the technique of making the screen a window on the
total sheet,Thus you can have up to 200 items listed in the left-hand column of the sheet,
and in relation to each of those items you can then have up to 13 columns of data,each 8
characters in length – a very substancial affair indeed.Each column of data is marked
by the letters 'A' to 'M',and above each letter you can insert your own column headings.
Furthermore,as you enter each item in the left hand column,in addition to naming it you
can first it a group code letter (from A to Z) which can be used later for some very
effective sorting. Indeed,it is advisable always to put this group code in,if it's only
a dummy!; if you select a sort without any codes entered the programme goes into an
endless loop.All this may become clearer if you study the printout at the foot of this
review;the group code letters are beneath the 'S*' heading.

The screen window on the sheet is bordered on the left by the left-hand column
listing items and their description.Up to fifteen or so can be on screen at once.Above
the 'window' are the current column headings for the two data fields that it is possible
to view at once.You then simply scroll up and down,back and forth across the sheet,which
comes into view as you do so.The item descriptions and column headings adjust to reflect
the current 'window' on the sheet.CTRL and various logical keys take care of the
scrolling.In addition one menu option allows you to list on a separate screen all the
data columns for one item.

There is one main menu,from which one selects a variety of modes.Perhaps the most
important is the 'Edit' command,which allows you to build up and change the data base.
Changes made on the screen are reflected by identical changes in the memory store.In this
mode you move the cursor at will around the screen,the relevant area being displayed in
the 'window'.You can write on  he sheet as you wish,entering numeric or alphabetical
characters.The second important menu is the 'Function' menu.This is called by typing
'F' at the main menu (a pity,use was not made of the Atmos function key,but this programme
is Oric-1 compatible!!).You are then offered eight options selected by number.The first
sorts the sheet by item group letter (the 'S*' column),in alphabetical order.The second
then allows you to sort within one of those groups with reference to a chosen field (A to
M).Thirdly you can find and display all the data fields relating to a chosen item (or a
number of items with the same description).The fourth option enables you to delete
selected lines or groups of lines,while option 5 allows you to enter data for a single
line as an alternative to the  'Edit'  command.The final three 'F' choices enable you to
swap fields for comparison,to tidy fields for maths operations,and to calculate,display
and add a percentage to the totals of selected numeric data fields.

Those in essence are the on-screen commands of 'Spread'.In addition there is a very
useful 'Check' utility which on request checks that the programme itself and any data
file loaded from tape is free from errors.And of course it is possible to save a sheet
to tape and reload it.Finally you can print off any sheet on either an MCP 40 or EPSOM
Printer.Indeed perhaps the most spectacular and satisfying part of the programme is to
see your carefully constructed spreadsheet out in tabular form.

The tape includes a demonstration data file which you can load immediately to see how the sheet should be set up,and to practice manipulating it.The printout of this,reproduced below.The programme comes complete with a manual detailing the commands available and explaining how to use it.I did feel that for the average user a rather more detailed run through a specimen sheet would have been helpful,although in truth the manual is right in its emphasises that the best way to become familiar with the commands is to use the programme,starting perhaps with a simple sheet and working up to what could undoubtedly be a very valuable file of cross-referenced information.

The principle limitation of the programme is the 40 column screen of the Oric.In effect, after the item description has taken the left-hand half of the screen ,you are restricted to viewing only two of a possible thirteen data columns at once.Alternatively,you will have to switch to the single item mode to view all the data at on one item,immediately losing the advantage of the spreadsheet format.But that is a limitation on the computer and not the software,which within the screen limits does as well as one could ask.

So,what use is it to you or me?In fact,with a little thought,the possibilities are endless.Just two examples would be to prepare a detailed catalogue of your prized collection,or to keep a record of car running costs.Almost anything that you might set out to tabulate,can be the subject-matter of a spreadsheet.And the last word has to be this: so far as I know this is the only numeric and alphabetic  spreadsheet programme still available on the Oric.(If not,let's have the others for review,please!)So,if your fancy has been taken,send £15 to Peach Computers,192 Greenock Road,Largs,Ayrshire,KA30 8SB. And Mr.Ward will send you a copy by return post.

| NO | ITEM DESCRIPTION | INVOICE | CASH | CHEQUE | VAT | DRAWS | MOTOR | WAGES | CAPEX | MATS | HIRE | SUNDRS. |
|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| S * | | A | B | C | D | E | F | G | H | I | J | K | L | M |
| 001 C | AA CLOTHS | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 002 C | CHAMOIS LEATH | 567890 | | 675 | | | | | | | | |
| 003 C | DUSTERS YELLOW | 678901 | 350 | | | | | | | | | |
| 004 C | DUSTERS WHITE | 739012 | 250 | | | | | | | | | |
| 005 C | J CLOTHS | 890123 | | 195 | | | | | | | | |
| 006 C | ZZ | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 007 H | AA HARDWARE | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 008 H | MOP HEADS | 678901 | 155 | | | | | | | | | |
| 009 H | PLASTIC BUCS | 012345 | | 1755 | | | | | | | | |
| 010 H | SCRUB BRUSH | 739012 | | 289 | | | | | | | | |
| 011 H | STEEL PAILS | 901234 | 2437 | | | | | | | | | |
| 012 H | ZZ | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 013 P | AA CLEANERS | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 014 P | CARBOLIC SOAP | 456789 | 175 | | | | | | | | | |
| 015 P | DOMESTOS | 345673 | | 225 | | | | | | | | |
| 016 P | FURNITURE CRM | 123456 | 500 | | | | | | | | | |
| 017 P | WINDOLENE | 234567 | 750 | | | | | | | | | |

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# COMING SOON..

What will the number 1 newsletter be bringing you in future issues of 'Your Oric'?

Your Oric will review it's first and latest release,Tyrant.An arcade action game that will become your addiction! A full review as well as a player's guide.

A Special feature on the Hellion.'The Hellion Story' will account an authors nightmare in producing a colossal arcade action game as well as a player's guide.Also a Special report from 'The Micronet Chatline'.

And for Adventure Fans,a MEGA GRAPHIC ADVENTURE  will be fully reviewed with screen shots and tips........

All this and more,only in your number 1 newsletter - Your Oric,for a great computer -

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# ORIC CHARTS Top 30

## Arcade

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | Zorgon's Revenge | I.J.K. |
| 2 | Damsel In Distress | I.J.K. |
| 3 | The Hellion | Orpheus |
| 4 | Xenon 111 'The Genesis Probe' | I.J.K. |
| 5 | Tendre Poulet (F) | Sprites |
| 6 | Karate (F) | Gasoline |
| 7 | Defence Force | Tansoft |
| 8 | Xenon 1 (F) | I.J.K. |
| 9 | A.T.M. (F) | Cobra Soft |
| 10 | Cobra Pinball (F) | Cobra Soft |
| 11 | Manic Minor (F) | Software Projects |
| 12 | Super Jeep (F) | Loriciels |
| 13 | Maze Rally | F.G.C. |
| 14 | Dracula's Revenge | Softek |
| 15 | Frelon (F) | Loriciels |
| 16 | Gubbie | I.J.K. |
| 17 | Don't Press The Letter 'Q' | I.J.K. |
| 18 | Snake Venom | F.G.C. |
| 19 | Roland Garros (F) | Sprites |
| 20 | Doggy (F) | Loriciels |
| 21 | Zebbie | I.J.K. |
| 22 | Hunch Back | Ocean |
| 23 | Krillys | Orpheus |
| 24 | Ghost Gobbler | I.J.K. |
| 25 | Star (F) | Loriciels |
| 26 | Lone Raider | Severn |
| 27 | Chopper | Severn |
| 28 | Chuckford | F.G.C. |
| 29 | Playground 21 | I.J.K. |
| 30 | Goldmine | F.G.C. |

## Adventure

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 1 | Le Diament De L'ile Maudite (F) | Loriciels |
| 2 | Secret du Tomb (F) | Loriciels |
| 3 | L'Aigle D'or (F) | Loriciels |
| 4 | A View To A Kill | Domark |
| 5 | Colossal Adventure | Level 9 |
| 6 | Snowball | Level 9 |
| 7 | Adventure Quest | Level 9 |
| 8 | Franklin's Tomb | Salamander |
| 9 | Lords of Time | Level 9 |
| 10 | Hell's Temple | Kenema |
| 11 | Lost In Space | Salamander |
| 12 | Paras | Lothlorien |
| 13 | Velnor's Lair | Quicksilva |

## HIGH SCORES

Defence Force - 802,520
(screen 74)
Zebbie - 726,110
Chuckford - 101,000

John Giddens, W.Sussex.

LOKI - 49475
Painter - 40620
Defence Force - 39440

Mr.R.J.Northcott, Berkshire.

# Adventure Spot

This Issue we have another French classic for you,this time its 'Le Diamant De L'ile maudite' by that great company Loriciels.Archimedes reviews this excellent graphic/text adventure,Archimedes has also kindly written a French/English translation of all the vocabulary used within the adventure plus a map of the whole island.Enjoy the review!

Issue 8 I will be reviewing Level 9's Classic adventure 'Colossal Cave' and hope to include maps and locations,hope you will join me next Issue!

# Le Diamant De L'ile Maudite

"From the text of a book by the English explorer Steven Smith,published in 1925:



"This island is the most mysterious that I have ever explored. The only life consists of insects and some strange rare plants.I saw no sign of human life.I had the clear conviction that this was the centre of an ancient civilisation.The island seemed an archaeologist's paradise.

But it also holds some terrifying creatures,protecting an unknown treasure........."

The impression of Professor Smith were justified by the discovery in the 1950's of three ancient inscriptions,with some rock paintings,revealing that a diamond of inestimable value was hidden on the island.

But no-one has ever found it,and the bravest have only found death and a certain grave on the island....

Then in 1970,the American Army took possession,seeing the island as an important strategic base.Later the island was abandoned by the Americans,who,it seems,left only a stone tower,the only apparent construction on the island.

But now to you — You have a very simple object,to set sail for the island,and return a alive with the diamond.There is but one choice — glory or death.

Unhappily,you suffer misfortune at the very start when your ship springs a leak as you approach the island.You finish your journey on the beach.The sharks had no appetite today."

Now,dear reader,thatis how 'The Diamond of the Cursed Isle' by Loriciels begins.... and proves to be in my humble view the very best adventure game yet produced for the Oric.The above introduction is followed by a moonlit view of the tiny island,a foretaste of the astoundingly good graphics to come.

So comprehensive is the game that you must play it in two parts,loading the second after you have completed the first.And when you finally succeed.....but that is jumping ahead.

Instead of rooms,the adventure consists of moving from location to location on the island.At each standpoint there are four views available;you can advance,retreat,turn left or right and turn around.And each time you do so the view alters,being swiftly and expertly replaced by another stunning graphics screen.The quality of the graphics is unsurpassed on the Oric,and there are no less than a total of 134 different views!!!!

The entry of instructions is also very sophisticated. Enter the first three or four letters of the word, and the programme recognises the word and completes the printing. The usual verb/object rules apply. But there is more - you can enter a sequence of up to 40 instructions before pressing RETURN, which are then executed in turn; the saving of time is obvious, and that of course means a saving in your diminishing energy ('vie').

All credit therefore to French authors Bertrand D'Armagnac and Fred Baille for a superb production. The opening screen and music are also well worth a mention.

So to the practical side - of course the game is in French, and to aid the non-linguists amongst you, at the end of this review you will find a fully translated list of vocabulary. Note that list 1 is of words used throughout the adventure, list 2 those words exclusive to Part 1, and list 3 those used only in Part 2.

One or two hints may not go amiss. Find and wear the boots as soon as possible, otherwise the scorpions will dramatically deplete your energy. And you need to eat and drink at a fairly early stage. You can not enter the stone tower through the front door (surprise, surprise!), and if you walk into the sea there will be a nasty shock waiting for you. To say more would be to spoil the fun of playing this game, but if you enjoy Part 1, then Part 2 is even better! And, when you do complete the adventure, there is quite a superb end screen to be loaded.

So, I hope your appetite is whetted. You are now fully equipped to play the adventure, and if you really get stuck, why not write in to 'French Leave' - don't forget that that applies to any problems you have with French Software.

So, what else can I promise you in the Adventure Spot? Well, there is a rather good detective adventure with real live clues and a computer to play with on the train in 'Meurtre a Grande Vitesse', from Cobrasoft. A sort of Murder on the Inter-City 125..........
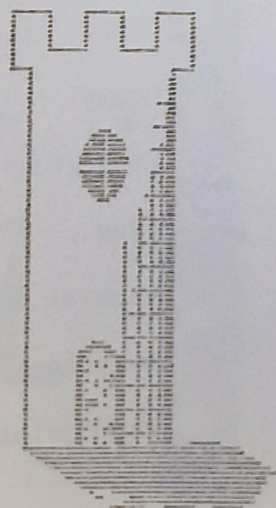
# BY ARCHIMEDES



LE DiAMANT DE l'île MAUDiTE

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THE CURSED ISLE — Map —

© Archimedes

TOWER

N / W — E / S

BEACH    START

---
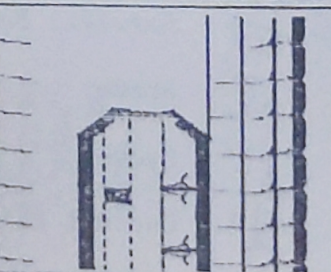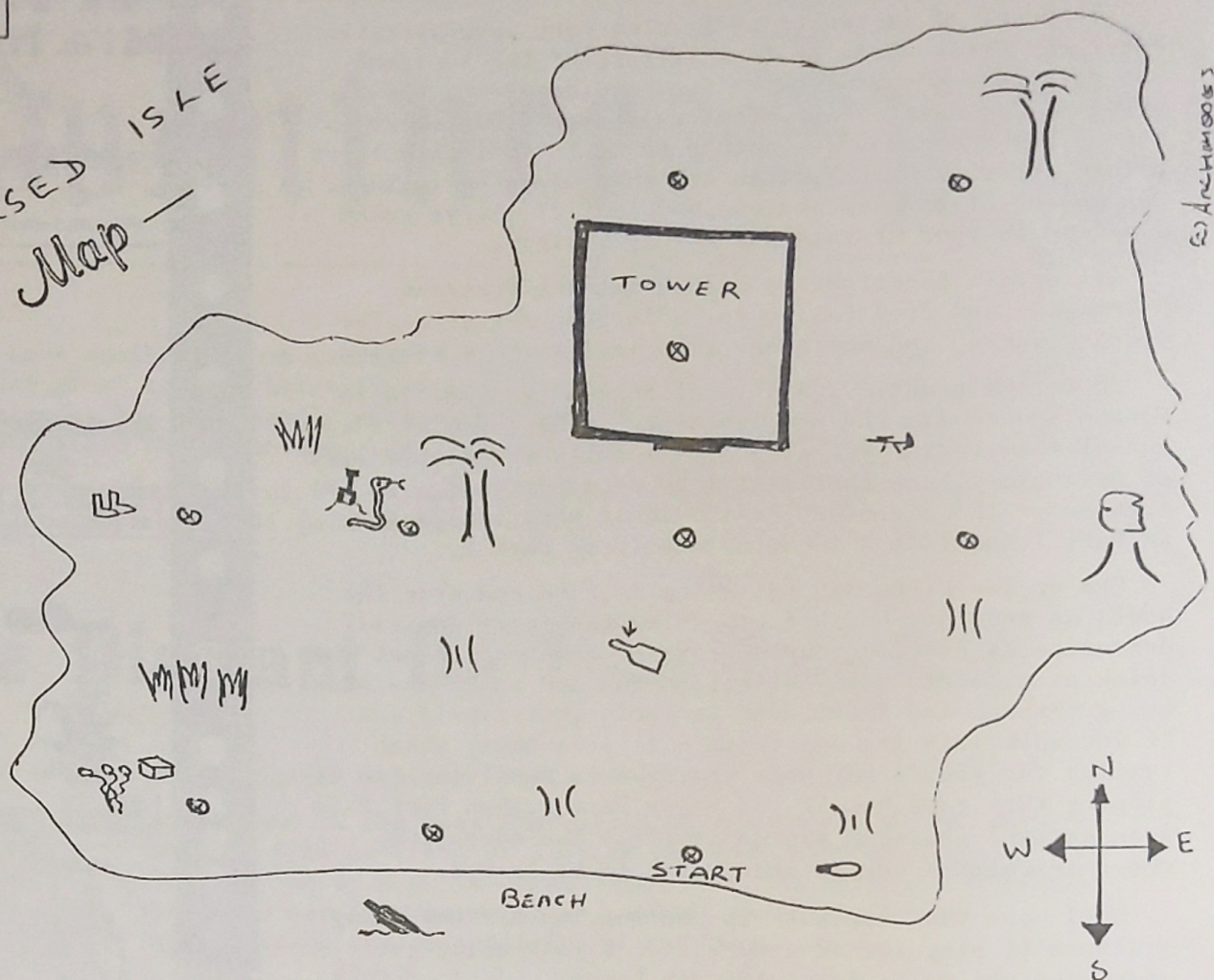
### Explanation:

Above is the map to 'The Cursed Isle'. It is there to give you a rough idea of how the island is layed out. Below is a key to the map.

### Key:

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| ᏝᏝ | Boots | ⬙ | Gourd |
| 🌿 | Strange Plant | )I/ | Grass |
| 📦 | Survival Box | ⅯⅯⅯ | Long grass |
| 🗡 | Spade | ⟋ | Club |
| ⌇ | Snake | ✈ | Machine Gun |
| 🌴 | Coconut Palm | )I( | Volcano |
| 🗑 | Bottle | ⊗ | Standpoint |

The island is approximately 170 yds x 120 yds in size.

BY ARCHIMEDES

# Adventure Vocabulary

## General Vocabulary

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| AVANCE | = Advance | | RECULE | = Step back |
| GAUCHE | = Turn left | | DROITE | = Turn right |
| DEMI-TOUR | = Turn around | | OUVRE | = Open |
| PRENDS | = Take | | POSE | = Put down |
| METS | = Wear | | MONTE | = Climb |
| REMONTE | = Descend | | LANCE | = Throw |
| BILAN | = Health check | | INVENTAIRE | = Inventory |
| SAUVE | = Save game | | CHARGE | = Load game |
| RIEN | = Wait | | SUICIDE | = Quit |
| GRILLE | = Iron gate | | BOIS | = Drink |
| PORTE | = Door | | DESCENDS | = Descend, Lower |

## Part 1 Vocabulary

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| AVALE | = Swallow | | ALLUME | = Light |
| BANDE | = Tape | | BLESSURES | = Wounds |
| BOTTES | = Boots | | CACHET | = Pill |
| COUPE | = Cut (verb) | | COUTEAU | = Knife |
| COCOTTIER | = Palm tree | | CLEF | = Key |
| DEBLAYE | = Clear (verb) | | ENTRE | = Enter |
| FORTIFIANT | = Tonic | | GOURDE | = Bottle |
| GRIMPE | = Climb | | INJECTE | = Inject |
| LIS | = Read | | MANGE | = Eat |
| MESSAGE | = Message | | MASSUE | = Club |
| MITRAILLETTE | = Machine gun | | NOIX DE COCO | = Coconut |
| PANSE | = Bandage | | PAQUET | = Packet |
| PELLE | = Spade | | PLACARD | = Cupboard |
| PLAIES | = Wounds | | PLANTE | = Plant (noun) |
| SERUM | = Serum | | SOL | = Soil |
| SOIGNE | = Treat (verb) | | TERRE | = Earth |
| TOUR | = Tower | | TIROIR | = Drawer |
| TRAPPE | = Trapdoor | | TROUSSE | = Box |
| SURVIVE | = Survival | | TORCHE | = Torch |

## Part 2 Vocabulary

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| APPUIE | = Press | | ATTACHE | = Fasten |
| BOUTON | = Knob, Button | | BRISE | = Break (verb) |
| CASQUE | = Helmet | | CORDE | = Rope |
| DECAPITE | = Behead | | DECOLLE | = Take off |
| DIAMANT | = Diamond | | DRAGON | = Dragon |
| EAU | = Water | | FAIS | = Make, Do |
| HELICO | = Helicopter | | INTERROGE | = Question |
| JERRICANE | = Jerry Can | | MARTEAU | = Hammer |
| OEIL | = Eye (noun) | | PLEIN | = Full |
| REGARDE | = Look at | | SABRE | = Sword |
| SAGE | = Wise man | | SEAU | = Bucket |
| TROU | = Hole | | | |